

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/650,793

Examiner

Adam R. Giesy

Applicant(s)

HAYASHI ET AL.

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 10/13/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Claims 1-20 are allowed over prior art of record.

Independent claims 1, 11, and 16 are allowed since the claims recites a controller for an optical disk drive comprising: a modulator configured to modulate record data to be recorded on an optical disc according to a record clock and to generate modulation data and address information of the modulation data, a decision circuit configured to determine whether a recording in accordance with a standard is performed from a phase characteristic based on the address information and the prepit clock and to control the frequency of the record clock, the decision circuit comprising: an address register configured to latch the address information in synchronization with the prepit clock, and a decoder configured to generate the phase characteristic from the latched address information.

Claims 2-10, 12-15, 17, and 18 are allowed as being dependent upon the aforementioned independent claims.

Independent claims 19 and 21 are allowed since the claims recite an integrated circuit comprising: a modulator configured to modulate record data to be recorded on an

optical disc according to a record clock and to generate modulation data and address information of the modulation data, a decision circuit configured to determine whether a recording in accordance with a standard is performed from a phase characteristic based on the address information and the prepit clock and to control the frequency of the record clock, the decision circuit comprising: an address register configured to latch the address information in synchronization with the prepit clock, and a decoder configured to generate the phase characteristic from the latched address information.

Independent claims 20 and 22 are allowed since the claims recite an optical disk drive comprising: an optical pickup and a controller, the controller comprising: a modulator configured to modulate record data to be recorded on an optical disc according to a record clock and to generate modulation data and address information of the modulation data, a decision circuit configured to determine whether a recording in accordance with a standard is performed from a phase characteristic based on the address information and the prepit clock and to control the frequency of the record clock, the decision circuit comprising: an address register configured to latch the address information in synchronization with the prepit clock, and a decoder configured to generate the phase characteristic from the latched address information.

The closest prior art by Masui (US Pat. No. 6,687,206 B1) discloses an information recording apparatus comprising a modulator, a prepit signal detector, a prepit signal decoder, an optical pickup, and a write clock generator. Masui does not disclose an address register, or a decoder configured to generate the phase characteristic from the latched address information.

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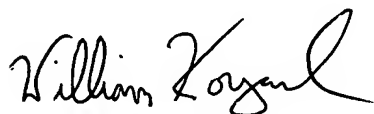
Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adam R. Giesy whose telephone number is (571) 272-7555. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am- 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William R. Korzuch can be reached on (571) 272-7589. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ARG 12/14/2006



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